

1 Hon. Richard A. Jones  
2 Trial Date: NOT SCHEDULED  
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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
9 **WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**  
10 **AT SEATTLE**

11 LARRY DEAN LAMBOURN,

12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

14 SENTINEL DREAM II HOLDINGS, LLC,  
15 MARC PFEFFERLE, ERIC D. BOMMER,  
16 STEVE CUMBOW, MATTHEW R. KAHN,  
17 CHRIS BAKER, MICHAEL J. FABIAN,  
ROSE RUIZ, JANE/JOHN DOES 1  
THROUGH 10, and THE MARITAL  
COMMUNITY OF EACH NONBUSINESS  
DEFENDANT

18 Defendants.

19 NO. 2:22-cv-00373-RAJ

20 **STATUS REPORT**

21 (Jury trial requested.)

22 Plaintiff submits this status report.

23 **I. VERIFICATION**

24 Plaintiff's counsel did not meet and confer with any defense attorney as no defendant has  
25 appeared in this matter.

26 **II. DISCUSSION**

27 Plaintiff filed this wage-claim lawsuit against the officers and directors of Hollander  
28 Sleep Products, LLC ("Hollander") in their individual capacity separate and apart from

29 **STATUS REPORT - 1**  
NO. 2:22-cv-373

30 **THE BARTON LAW FIRM**

31 1567 Highlands Dr NE Ste 110-34

32 Issaquah, WA 98029-6245

33 (425) 243-7960 TheBartonLawFirm@GMail.com

1 Hollander's liability for its failure to pay plaintiff's severance wages. Each officer and director  
 2 is individually liable separate and apart from Hollander's liability pursuant to RCW 49.52.050  
 3 and RCW 49.52.070, the latter of which states that "Any employer and any officer, vice  
 4 principal or agent of any employer" shall be liable for willfully withholding wages. Each officer  
 5 and director are also individually liable separate and apart from Hollander's liability pursuant  
 6 RCW 49.46.010, which defines an "employer" who may be held liable for a failure to pay  
 7 wages as "includ[ing] any individual ... or any person or group of persons acting directly or  
 8 indirectly in the interest of an employer in relation to an employee." These statutes define the  
 9 non-debtor corporate officers and directors' liability in this case as liability that is parallel with,  
 10 not derived from, the Debtor's liability. The law does not define the liability as arising from the  
 11 officer's/director's relationship with the corporation or make the liability contingent upon a  
 12 finding that the corporation is liable.

14 No party in this court's lawsuit is a party in Hollander's bankruptcy. None of the  
 15 Defendant officers and directors are currently debtors in Hollander's bankruptcy.

16 No party's asserted right in this lawsuit is affected by the stay in Hollander's bankruptcy  
 17 The Bankruptcy Court's stay governs "releasing parties." Plaintiffs in the present lawsuit are not  
 18 releasing parties.

19 The Plan Administrator appears to be helping the Defendants in this case by threatening  
 20 to drag Plaintiff into Hollander's bankruptcy proceeding in New York. Attorney Beth E. Levine,  
 21 who represents the Plan Administrator of Hollander's estate, argues in a series of letters with  
 22 Plaintiff's counsel John Barton that Plaintiff's claim in this lawsuit against the debtor's officers  
 23 and directors "interfere[es] with the use and distribution of the Debtors' assets in the manner  
 24 contemplated by the Plan," thereby violating the plan.

1 Plaintiff's consulting bankruptcy attorney disagrees. He concluded that Levine's  
2 analysis is incorrect and that the Bankruptcy Court will likely reject Levine's argument.

3 Plaintiff's bankruptcy attorney advised Plaintiff's counsel, however, that Levine can  
4 nonetheless drag Plaintiff into the Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of New York and  
5 force Plaintiff to incur fees defending against her claims.

6 Plaintiff's bankruptcy attorney advised Plaintiff to request that this Court continue the  
7 current stay until a reasonable time after May 1, 2019, which is the current deadline in the  
8 bankruptcy proceeding for objections to creditors' claims. The bankruptcy proceeding might be  
9 approaching a final determination of creditor claims. The bankruptcy was filed in May 2019. In  
10 October 2022, the bankruptcy court extended the Claims Objections Deadline to May 1, 2023.  
11 If that deadline is not extended, the Plan Administrator should be able to make a decision on all  
12 creditors' claims in the months after the May 1, 2023. At that point, Plaintiff's claim against the  
13 debtor's officers and directors should no longer be *able* to affect the use and distribution of the  
14 Plan since that use and distribution will have been determined.

16 Plaintiff needs to avoid incurring unnecessary fees incurred opposing an unfounded  
17 argument in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of New York. At this point,  
18 permitting the stay to continue in this Court's case for another seven months might accomplish  
19 that. Accordingly, Plaintiff requests that the Court keep the stay in place and order a second  
20 status report be issued in July 2023.

22 EXECUTED in Issaquah, Washington this January 20, 2023.

23 /s/ John Barton  
24 John G. Barton, WSB No. 25323  
25 Attorney for Plaintiffs  
1567 Highlands Dr NE Ste 110-34  
Issaquah, WA 98029-6245  
(425) 243-7960

**STATUS REPORT - 3**  
NO. 2:22-cv-373

**THE BARTON LAW FIRM**

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**STATUS REPORT - 4**  
NO. 2:22-cv-373

**THE BARTON LAW FIRM**

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1 DECLARATION OF SERVICE

2 I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that  
3 on this date, I did not send this *Status Report* to any other party as no defendant has appeared in  
this action.

4 EXECUTED at Issaquah, Washington this January 20, 2023.

5 /s/ John Barton  
6 John G. Barton, WSBA No. 25323  
7 Attorney for Plaintiffs  
8 1567 Highlands Dr NE Ste 110-34  
Issaquah, WA 98029-6245  
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